

FIRST YEAR
TEXTBOOK



EPISTLES I

**I & II Corinthians,
Galatians, Ephesians,
Philippians, Colossians**

DELIVERANCE BIBLE INSTITUTE of MOSHI
Moshi, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania

Deliverance Bible Institute
EPISTLES I

DELIVERANCE BIBLE INSTITUTE
Portland, Maine, USA

EPISTLES I

I & II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians

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Introduction

Epistles I is a survey of the following Pauline Epistles: I & II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, and Colossians. Let us set the scene for these epistles by taking a brief look at Paul's Second Missionary Journey. After this foundation is laid, we will begin a study on the epistles or letters that Paul wrote to the above listed churches.

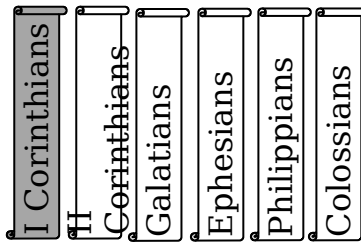
Paul's Second Missionary Journey - Acts Chapters 15-18

- "Paul said...let us go again... and see how they do" (15:36) Paul and Barnabas determined to go and visit the Believers in cities they had already preached, but sharp contention arose between them about John Mark. The dispute concluded with Barnabas taking John Mark with him to Cyprus and Paul taking Silas with him through Syria and Cilicia confirming the churches. From this dispute we can observe that personal conflicts are often harder to deal with than doctrinal differences.
- Came to Derbe and Lystra (16:1) Timothy joins Paul and Silas. Timothy must have been very young at this time for years later he was still admonished in I Timothy 4:12 to let no man despise his youth. Paul had a history at Lystra for it was there he was stoned to death according to Acts 14:19. Paul delivered the decrees as ordained by the apostles and elders and the churches were established in the faith and increased daily. With all false doctrines spreading among the early church, Paul's visit with his solid doctrinal message was very timely.
- Phrygia & Galatia. (16:6) Forbidden to preach in Asia.
- Mysia. (16:7) Suffered not to go to Bithynia by the Holy Spirit
- Troas. (16:9) Paul is learning to follow the leading of the Spirit. A vision of the Macedonian call—a man saying "Come over and help us."
- Samothracia, Neapolis and then Philippi. (16:11-13,23-37) Prayer meeting at the river side. New convert is Lydia. Paul cast out a devil out of a woman. Paul and Silas beaten and cast into prison. Paul and Silas sing and praise at the midnight hour. Everyone's bands were loosed. The jailer was saved. Paul being a Roman asked them to come to him. Paul was asked to leave.
- Amphipolis, Apollonia and then Thessalonica (17:1-5,13) Reasoned three days out of the Scripture on the risen Christ. Some Jews believed and a great multitude of Greeks believed. Some Jews rejected the Gospel. Paul and Silas sent to Berea.

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- Berea Thessalonica. (17:13,11) Jews stirring up the people. Timothy and Silas stay at Berea while they send Paul to Athens. Bereans searched the Scriptures daily.
- Athens. (17:16-22,34) Paul's spirit stirred because of the idolatry. The Epicurean and Stoic philosophers brought Paul to Areopagus. Mar's Hill sermon.
- Corinth. (18:1-11) Paul meets Aquila and Priscilla and teaches in the synagogue every Sabbath and Silas and Timothy came to Corinth. Some opposed and some believed. A night vision. Paul teaches in Corinth for a year and a half..
- Ephesus. (18:18,19,21) Left Priscilla and Aquila here. Reasoned with the Jews in the Synagogue and bade them farewell.
- Jerusalem (18:21,22) Landed at Caesarea and went to Jerusalem
- Antioch. (18:22;14:26-28) Saluted the Church and reported the results as before.

I Corinthians



The Writer

- “Paul, called to be an Apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God.” (1:1)

The Purpose of Writing

- “To the Church of God which is at Corinth” 1:2
- “To them that are sanctified” “Called to be saints” 1:2
- “All that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord” 1:2
- **Paul intended for the letter to circulate beyond this church.**
- To answer questions the Corinthians had concerning problems in the Church. (7:1; 8:11; 12:1; 16:1) These problems are common today in one form or another.
- To reprove contentious arguments. I Cor. 1:11-13
- To defend his apostleship and ministry. I Cor. 9:1-27

The Theme

- Cleansing the church from false conceptions. Christian conduct is a top priority.
➔GIVE ALL YOUR ALLEGIANCE TO JESUS←

The Outline

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Introduction: The City of Corinth

- I. Grace, Christ, Power and Wisdom of God (Ch. 1 & 2)
- II. The Temple of God (Ch. 3)
- III. The Ministers of God (Ch. 4)
- IV. The Wickedness in the Church of God (Ch. 5 & 6)
- V. The Marriage Union Under God (Ch. 7)
- VI. Christian Liberties in God (Ch. 8, 9 & 10)
- VII. Instructions Regarding Church Order from God (Ch. 11)
- VIII. Spiritual Gifts from God (Ch. 12, 13 & 14)
- IX. Errors Corrected Concerning the Resurrection (Ch. 15)
- X. Instructions Concerning Stewardship (Ch. 16)
- XI. Basic Principles in I Corinthians

I. Introduction: The City of Corinth

In Paul's day, Corinth was the leading commercial center of Greece and one of the most important cities in the Roman Empire. No other city held such a commanding geographic position in Ancient Greece. Its location on the Isthmus of Corinth, the narrow strip of land that was considered a commercial bridge between the North and the South allowed it to control all travelling merchants. There was a harbor on the west side and the east side giving it the advantage commercially and militarily as a leading naval power.

Corinth was a Grecian city noted as a sports center (I Cor. 9:24-27). It was populous (500,000 – 700,000) and wealthy. The first athletes were attracted to the Isthmian games celebrated near the city. Paul addressed athletes in his epistles.

A cosmopolitan place, intellectually alert, materially prosperous, but morally corrupt. The ideal of the Corinthian was the reckless development of the individual. The Corinthian man was a man of pleasure and leisure and proud of his physical strength. The Corinthian's desire was his law—*if it feels good, do it*. Corinth was a land of idolatry and prostitution. The Greek's worshipped a multitude of false gods and goddesses which included the false goddess Aphrodite who supposedly embodied love and beauty.

Paul looked for strategic places to preach the Gospel (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 18:1-11). Corinth was also a prestigious center from which the Gospel could spread out to the surrounding districts. Anything preached in Corinth was sure to spread.

The spirit of the city of Corinth was getting into the Church. The church today faces the same problems—carnality and immaturity instead of growth under the Lordship of Christ. Some of the problems in Corinth were:

- (1)INTELLECTUAL PRIDE. Corinth was the rival of Athens. The Greeks were proud of their language, literature and learning. Paul prepared this epistle to meet the Greek mind. He begins by showing the foolishness of human wisdom. (1:20,21; 2:14; 3:19) Paul renounced human wisdom and influence from his ministry. (1:17; 2:1)
- (2)ADDICTION TO IMMORALITY. ... reported commonly that there is fornication among you. (5:1-11; 6:15-18)
- (3)DRUNKENNESS. ...ye come together not for the better, but **for the worse**... and another is drunken. (11:17,21)

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- (4)CARNALITY They were babes before and still babes full of their carnality. Paul had to feed them milk when they should have been mature enough to handle meat. They were still *walking as men*. (3:1-3)
- (5)LACK OF BROTHERLY LOVE Christian brothers were taking each other to secular courts over personal disputes. There was a lack of unity and the common bond of love which is characteristic of Christ. (6:1-8)
- (6)CHURCH ATMOSPHERE OF LUXURY AND LICENTIOUSNESS. Paul admonishes them to set their goals higher and to be more mindful of the kingdom of God. Their affluence has created the dangerous potential for idolatry.
- (7)TORN BY CONTENTION AND DIVISIONS. Divisions plagued the church. Loyalty, love and forbearance were replaced by jealousy, bitterness, and revenge. (3:4; 16:12)
- (8)LAX IN ITS DISCIPLINE Over and over, Paul finds it vitally necessary to instruct them in proper judgment. There is quite a sense of disorder in the church that Paul is confronting in this letter.

II. Grace, Christ, Power and Wisdom of God (1:1-2:16)

Introduction 1:1-3

1. Thanksgiving for the Grace of God (1:4-9)
2. The cause and the cure for contention (1:10-31) The Christ of God
3. The Power of God revealed through the cross 1:18,24; 2:4,5
4. The Wisdom of the world contrasted with the Wisdom of God 1:19-2:16

KEY VERSES:

1. 1:5 “enriched by him, in all”
2. 1:6 “the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you”
3. 1:1-2, **9** -11, **30** Fellowship of Jesus Christ our Lord

IN HIS WISDOM
IN HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS
IN HIS SANCTIFICATION

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IN HIS REDEMPTION

There is no logical process to attain to the things of God without, Spiritual insight, everything is revealed by faith in Jesus Christ.

John 3:3—Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

I Cor. 1:5, 19; Isa. 29:13, 14 - Their wisdom shall perish without true fellowship

I Cor. 15:33—"Evil communications corrupt good manners"

Col. 2:3—"In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge

4. I Cor. 1:**18**, 24, 2:4, 5 The power of God revealed through the Cross

The simple Gospel is Jesus Christ in the flesh dying on the cross in our place, shedding His blood to make an atonement for everyone that would believe in Him.

I Cor. 15:3—Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures
15:4—"Buried and rose again according to the scriptures"

5. 2:9-16, **10** "But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit."

III. The Temple of God (3:1-23)

The Spiritual foundation of every believer's life is Jesus Christ.

*1Cor. 3:11—For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid,
which is Jesus Christ.*

*1Cor. 10:4—And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank
of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.*

A. The Foundation for a wise man.

Matt. 7:25; I Cor.1:24, 30; 2:6-7, 13; 12:8

The Apostle Paul spoke the wisdom of God in a mystery even the hidden wisdom

1. A Rock (spiritual) Mat. 16:16-18; I Cor. 10:4

- a. A Word from God.
- b. A Revelation of the Son of God.

2. The Foundation must be Jesus Christ.

3. I Cor.3:1; Eph. 2:20; Acts 4:11-12

(Our foundation must not be CULTURE, but
CHRIST!)

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a)

- a. A Sure Foundation—Isa 28:16 ...**a sure foundation**:
- b. The Head stone of the Corner—Ps 118:22 ... “**the head stone**”
 - b) Matt. 21:42; Mark 12:10; Luke 20:17; Acts 4:11
- c. Stumblingstone and Rock of Offence Romans 9:33; 10:11; Isa. 8:14
- d. That Spiritual Rock...That Rock was Christ

*1Cor 10:4—And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual **Rock** that followed them: and **that Rock was Christ**.*

- e. Jesus Christ Himself being The Chief Corner Stone

*Eph 2:20—And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being **the chief corner stone**;*

I Peter 2:4-8 *A living Stone, (Wise men) as lively stones are built up a spiritual house. (A living Temple) Eph. 2:21-22; 3:5; II Peter 3:2; I Cor. 3:9-16; II Cor. 6:16; Heb.3:1-6*

4. Founded Upon a Rock

- Mt 7:24 “built his house upon a rock” 25 “founded upon a rock”
- Upon this rock I will **build...** Mat.16:18
- Prov.10:25 ...an everlasting foundation.
- Zech. 12:1; Ps. 11:3
- Eph. 2:20—And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;
 - a. Established, originated, set up, created, started, bring into being, initiate, build.

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- b. Foundation-source, base, root, origin, beginning, footing, underpinning.

B. The Foundations to build on and the unity of their dimensions with what is being built. I Cor.10:6,11

1Cor.10:5—But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

1Cor. 10:12—Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Mat.7:27; Luke 6:49; II Peter 2:20

We have been given the foundations to build on and it is our responsibility to build proportionally and properly. I Cor. 3:13

How does your life square up, straighten up, measure up and size up?

Examine your faith - Test your commitment - Try the spirits.

1. Spirituality - experience
2. Reality - true
3. Eternity-All time has meaning, All of life has Purpose
4. Morality- goodness
5. Accountability-confession and responsibility to revelation and key knowledge.
6. Charity - Love

C. Digging Deep <See Addendum for “

Luke 6:48—He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep...

- ❖ This wise builder struck the rock before he laid the foundation. God is not to be found on the surface. You must DIG DEEP.

1. Diligently digging (search) to know Him.

(1Cor. 11:3; Php 3:10; Luke 16:3)

2. Digging Deeper to grow more like Him.

(II Tim. 2:15; Hebrews 4:11; II Peter 1:5, 6, 7)

- ◆ Don't just dig it up, **but dig it out!**

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- ◆ A man's words expose
 - o his true nature: what he is really like beneath the surface.
 - o what he is down deep within his heart: his motives, desires, ambitions, or the lack of initiative.
 - o his true character: good or bad, kind or cruel.
 - o his mind: pure or impure, dirty or clean, negative or positive.
 - o his spirit, what he believes and pursues: the legitimate or illegitimate, the intelligent or ignorant, the true or false, the good or evil, beneficial or wasteful, Spiritual or carnal.

3. **Dig Deep in prayer** that others will know Him

I Cor.11:4,13; **14:15**; John 8:43; Jer. 7:28; Mt 13:15; Mat. 12:34; Luke 6:45

Faith sees the invisible, Believes - the incredible, Receives - the impossible.

KEY VERSES:

3:6 "God giveth the increase"

3:9 "For we are laborers together with God"

3:10 "A wise master builder"

3:11 Jesus Christ is the foundation

3:16 "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God" (6:15, 19, 20)

D. The Builders

1. God (Father, Son, & Holy Ghost) Heb. 11:10 Mat. 16:18
2. Noah built an Ark and also an Altar 1Peter 3:20; Gen. 8:20
3. David (Father) Made Preparation & Solomon (Son) built the Temple 1 Chron. 22:5,14
4. Nehemiah and his builders Neh.4:18 I Chron.26:26-27
5. Peter I Pt. 2:5
6. Paul I Cor.3:10
7. The Church is built up by wise men of the Word, Led by the Holy Ghost. God reveals his Son to us and we build by faith.

II Peter 1:2...but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Col 3:16; II Cor. 2:14; Col 1:28

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- By the teachings of His Spirit - He reveals His Son in us.

Gal. 1:16—***To reveal his Son in me...*** Acts 9:6; John 16:13

- He changes us into the same image.

II Cor. 3:18 ...changed into the same image from glory to glory...
(*1Cor. 15:49; Romans 8:29; Col 3:10*)

8. Jeremiah Jer. 1:10... *"to build, and to plant."*

Jer. 1:18 ... I have made thee ...for I am with thee, saith the
LORD, to deliver

E. Master Builder's Instructions (I Cor. 3:10)(4:15) 10:1-33

1Cor. 10:12—Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

1Cor. 10:13—There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1Cor. 10:15—I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

IV. The Ministers of God (4:1-21)

KEY VERSES:

4:2 "It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful"

4:20 "For the kingdom of God in not in word but in power"

V. The Wickedness in the Church of God (5:1-6:20)

KEY VERSES:

5:7 "Christ our Passover"

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(Purge out the old leaven that ye may be a new lump.)

6:3 “Know ye not that we shall judge angels”

VI. The Marriage relationship under God (7:1-40)

KEY VERSES:

VII. Christian liberties in God (8:1-10:33)

10:12 Our liberty is no excuse for slackness. We must take heed because there is a storm coming.

A. The Purpose of the Storm is to be tested.

1Cor. 10:13—There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

15 -I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

Mat .10:24—The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.

4:1—Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

1. The Temptation

Sin, World- sensuality-man, Satan

2. The Test

Man, Satan- 2Co 12:7 the messenger of Satan, God

3. The Trial

Spirit, Word, God

KEY VERSES:

9:22 “By all means save some”

9:24 “Run that ye may obtain”

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10:4 “That rock was Christ”

10:12 “Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall”

VIII. Instructions regarding Church order 11:1-34

KEY VERSES:

11:1 “Be ye followers of me even as I also am of Christ”

11:3 “The head of every man is Christ”

IX. Instructions concerning Spiritual gifts 12:1-14:40

A. Rules of Unity Ch. 12

1. Spiritual Gifts

- No one ruled by the Spirit of God will ever curse Jesus. 12:3
 - The Holy Ghost in a person's life will always exalt Jesus, produce morality and unity. Eph 4:3; 4:13
- Each gift is necessary for the proper functioning of the Body. 12:12-27
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit are given according to the Holy Spirit's will. 12:11
- There are many members of the one body and all should seek the more excellent way.
 - We must be growing spiritually and diligently exercising our faith so that God will add to our life more of His Love that we all would be like Him, which is the more excellent way. (12:27-31)
- A special gift enabling a Christian to perform a particular ministry in the church. I Cor. 12:4; Rom. 12:4; Eph. 4:4; Heb. 2:4; 1 Peter 4:10

Paul gives instructions on the spiritual gifts in 1 Cor. 12:4 - 11, 28 - 30.

Spiritual gifts are gifts and abilities given by the Holy Ghost to be used in the church and in the ministry to reach the world for Christ. People do not always use the gifts in the way that they should be used. Christian believers do not always use their gifts wisely as God wants them used. This happened to the believers in the Corinthian church, and it happens to multitudes of believers and churches in every generation.

The misuse and abuse of God's gifts are the very reasons the whole world has never been reached for Jesus Christ. I Cor. 1:5-9; 1 Peter 4:10-11

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The Gifts of the Spirit are many but only one Holy Ghost There are **Nine** gifts of the Spirit specifically mentioned in I Corinthians 12: The Word of Wisdom; The Word of Knowledge, Faith, The gifts of Healing, The Working of Miracles. Prophecy, Discerning of spirits, Divers kinds of Tongues, and the interpretation of Tongues.

Paul emphasizes the practical nature of the Spiritual gifts. The Spirit bestows his gifts for the edification of the church, the formation of Christian character, and the service of the community. The reception of a spiritual gift, therefore, brought serious responsibility, since it was essentially an opportunity for yielding yourself in sacrificial service for others and was not self-serving.

The more spectacular gifts such as tongues, healings and miracles necessitate order that would prevent indiscriminate use (1 Cor. 14:40). The spirits of the prophets must be subject to the prophets (vs. 32). Paul clearly insists that those receiving spectacular gifts must remain in order. Speaking in Tongues was not forbidden but encouraged (vs. 39), gifted exposition of the word, instruction in faith, in morals and anointed preaching of the gospel are infinitely superior. The greatest peril lay in overemphasizing the gifts, which tend to exalt the individuals and leads to the loss of the church's awareness of the Spirit's presence and power.

The standard used to judge the relative values of spiritual gifts are: doctrinal (1 Cor. 12:3), moral (1 Cor. 13), and practical (1 Cor. 14).

2. Spiritual Authority

"Some" have been placed in the church for the proper order to be kept and that people would remain submissive and humble. Without the leading, guiding and directing of the Holy Ghost people will go astray. It takes Holy Ghost filled people that operate in the spirit to govern the church properly.

1 Cor. 12:28—And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Apostles. Apostles are Men of God chosen by a Word from God for specific purposes over the church to declare and to do the Will of God. Even when Paul was asked to legislate for the churches he had founded, his authority was not his apostleship but a word from the Lord (1 Cor. 7:10).

Prophets. Prophets stand next in importance to apostles they build up believers in the faith by speaking and teaching the Revealed Word. (1 Cor. 14:6, 26, 30 - 31).

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God makes His will known through the prophet Acts 13:1 or a future event will be foretold (Acts 11:28; 21:10 - 11); but the prophet's special gift is the edification, exhortation, consolation, and instruction of the local churches (1 Cor. 14).

Teachers. Carefully distinguished from, the gift of prophecy is the gift of teaching (1 Cor. 12:28 - 29; Rom. 12:7). The prophet proclaims the word; the teacher explained what the prophet proclaims, reduces it to statements of doctrine, and applies it to the situation in which we live. The teacher offers systematic instruction (2 Tim. 2:2) to the local churches. In Eph. 4:11 Paul adds pastor to that of teacher, because no one is able to communicate effectively without loving those who are being instructed. Likewise, to be an effective pastor, one must also be a teacher.

Helpers . The Gift of Helps (1 Cor. 12:28) Helpers; What spiritual gift was signified by "helper" may be gathered from Acts 20:35, where Paul exhorts the Ephesians elders to labor "to help the weak" The deacon was one who ministered to the needy (Acts 6:1 - 6).

The Evangelist. The evangelist is a gift to the church. Timothy is called an evangelist in 2 Tim. 4:5, as is Philip, one of the seven, in Acts 21:8. The task of preaching the gospel is every believer's responsibility, but Evangelists have been entrusted specifically to encourage and enrich the church as well.. They are to exercise their ministry in the full realization that the power comes from God.

Governments. The Gift of Governments or Administration (1 Cor.12:28; Rom.12:8) Leaders, Directors or elders, who maintain church discipline.

It is absolutely necessary that we follow the leading of the Holy Ghost but If you're not submissive to the God-ordained leadership then you're not submissive to God.

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B. Rules of Love Ch. 13

1. Love excels spiritual gifts. 13:1-3
2. Love out lasts spiritual gifts. 4-12
3. Love is the greatest. 13:13
Love is Greater in quality and longer in endurance.
- a. The value of love 1-3

More than any sound, More than every Gift, More than all sacrifices

- b. The virtues of love 4-7

Long suffering, Kind, Envieth not, Vaunteth not itself, Is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all thing, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

- c. The victories of love 8-13

*8—Charity never faileth:
10 ...that which is in part shall be done away.
11 ...I became a man, I put away childish things.
12 ...then shall I know even as also I am known.
13—And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.*

C. Rules of Edification Ch. 14

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1. The chief test of any spiritual manifestation is edification.
14:12
2. Prophecy is superior to tongues. But if you have a weakness yielding your tongue to the Lord, how can you yield your mind, heart, soul and spirit properly to the Lord to Prophecy. 14:1-12
3. Tongues interpreted edify. 14:22, 26-28
4. Improper manifestation can repel people from the church.
14:23-28
5. The Spirit of the prophets is subject to the prophets. 14:32
6. The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

1Cor. 14:40—Let all things be done decently and in order.

1Cor. 14:36—What? came the word of God out from you?

[or came it unto you only?]

1. Don't abuse the gifts that God gives you by thinking that you are the only teacher and that you have something that no one else has, that God speaks exclusively to you: a truth, insight, revelation, understanding.
 - Too many think God doesn't speak specially to people and that God doesn't give truth and insight that other's won't receive but He does, just don't abuse it.
 - ▶ LEARN THE TRUTH
 - ▶ LOVE THE TRUTH
 - ▶ LIVE THE TRUTH
2. Be spiritual and covet the best gifts but don't abuse them by just thinking that you are more spiritual than others.
- 3.

1Cor. 2:15—But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

The rules laid down by Paul were commandments from the Lord.

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Every prophet and every spiritual person must acknowledge this fact and obey the rules.

There were some in Corinth who had rejected the rules God had given Paul.

They thought their gifts and spirituality placed them above the rules and gave them the right to exercise their gifts as they felt led.

1Cor. 14:37—If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

If anyone refuses to accept and follow the rules, then let him remain in his ignorance.

1Cor. 14:38—But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant.

God will take care of him who rebels and continues to act selfishly in ignorance.

1Cor. 14:23—If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad?

(Receive from the Lord to help them also.)

1Cor. 14:3—But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

1Cor. 14:20—Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men. (1Cor. 15:33, 34)

A Spiritual minded man is knowledgeable, Faithful and wise in all his ways. All are edified where the spiritual are obedient.

KEY VERSES:

12:31 "Covet earnestly the best gifts"

13:13 "The greatest of these is love"

14:33, 40 "Let all things be done decently and in order"(God of PEACE)

X. Errors corrected concerning the resurrection 15:1-58

KEY VERSES:

15:10 "By the grace of God I am what I am"

15:26 "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death"

15:4 "As we have born the image of the earthly we shall also bear the image of the heavenly"

XI. Instructions concerning stewardship

These are the greatest resources that we have in this world and they must not be wasted: **Money** 16:1-4, **Opportunities** 5-9, **People** 10-24.

KEY VERSES:

16:2 "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him"

16:9 "A great door and effectual is opened unto me and there are many adversaries"

16:22 if any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ let him be accursed

There is a deep significance. Failure to recognize Jesus Christ as Lord caused many disorders to creep into their lives. I Cor. 1:1-10; 31; 2:8,16; 3:20; 4:4; 5:4,5; 6:11-14,17; 7:10,11,17; 8:6; 9:1; 10:21; 11:23-32; 12:3; 14:21,37; 15:57,58; 16:10,22,23

XII. Basic Principles in I Corinthians

I Tim. 1:19; Heb. 5:11-14; I Cor. 3:1-4; 15:34; II Peter 1:3-10

1. Conscience depends on Spiritual knowledge 8:7

The more spiritual knowledge we know and act upon, the stronger our conscience will become.

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2. Knowledge must be balanced by love

I Cor. 1:5; 8:1; 16:14; Eph. 4:5; Phil. 1:9-11; II Peter 1:3,8

The right knowledge is seed for the fruit of God's Love to grow in your heart by faith in the power of God.

For a man to **experience** the same love of God working in his heart there must first be right knowledge. For every measure of spiritual development there must first be planted a seed of truth.

3. The strong must care for the weak I Cor. 8:9 Rom. 14-15

4. Personal rights and privileges must be surrendered for the Gospel's sake 9:1-16

5. The limits of liberty - The boundaries of freedom - The liberty of limits-

Limits and boundaries are not to confound but to Protect and keep safe.

1Cor. 9:12; 15, 16; Isaiah 57:20; 21; II Cor. 3:17

6. Authority must be balanced by discipline 9:17-27

The best example is found in the one who practices what he preaches. Implicit obedience to the Word of God is the foundation to direct or correct all others.

7. Experience must be balanced by caution I Cor. 10:11; Jos.1:7-8

8. Freedom must be balanced by responsibility 10:23-33

We ought to have consideration not of ourselves only, but of others also.

We must be responsible to say and do the right things at the right times.

Freedom of speech must be fully respectful to other's safety, In 1919, Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes ruled that the First Amendment does not protect a man falsely shouting "fire" in a theater and causing a panic.

9. Our labor must be ordered by the Word of the Lord I Cor. 15:58 1:19,31; 2:9,13; 9:9,10; 10:6; 15:23,45; Psa. 37:23

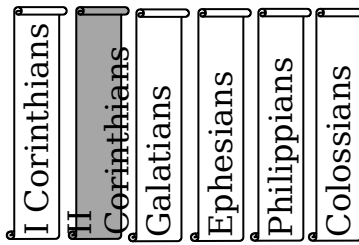
Study Questions: Introduction & I Corinthians

1. Before arriving in Corinth, Paul visited _____
_____ where he saw the city wholly given over to _____.
2. The Corinthian church was apparently quite large. True or False
3. How long did Paul stay in Corinth?
4. Give a brief summary of what took place in Corinth in Acts 18:1-11.
5. Describe Corinth as a city.
6. The more _____ we know and act upon the stronger our conscience will _____.
7. What must we have to balance our knowledge?
8. Who must take heed and care for the weak? Give reference, also.
9. What balances the Christian's authority?

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10. What balances the Christian's freedom?
11. Love excels _____ gifts.
12. What is the chief test of any spiritual manifestations?

II Corinthians



The Writer

The Apostle Paul. (1:1)

The Purpose of Writing

The letter written to the church in Corinth would circulate “with all the Saints which are in all Achaia.” 1:1

To comfort them which are in any trouble. 1:3-7; 13:11

To give instructions concerning the collection for the Saints in Jerusalem. 8-9

Paul determines to defend his apostleship and authority against false teachers who seek to establish themselves by criticizing him.

10:10; 11:4,13-15; 12:11,12, 15-16; 13:3,5-8

“Whether ye be obedient in all things.” 2:9; 10:5,6; 13:10

The Theme

The true gospel ministry for Christ. (4:5; 5:18-21; 6:1, 11-18; 10:12-18)

He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. II Cor. 10:17; I Cor. 1:31; Jer. 9:23,24

The Outline

Introduction - 1:1,2

- I. Paul delayed his visit to Corinth to spare them the embarrassment, not because of lightness. 1:17,23; 1:12 - 2:5
- II. Obedient in all things. 2:9, 6-11
- III. The apostle’s knowledge of the enemy’s devices gained through many hard learning experiences.
- IV. The apostle’s testimony 2:14-17
- V. The apostle’s ministry 3:1-7:16

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- VI. Instructions for the collection for the saints in Jerusalem. 8:1 – 9:15
- VII. Paul defending his ministry. 10:1 – 12:21
- VIII. Paul's last warnings to the Corinthians. 13:1-10
- IX. Be encouraged and then encourage others. 13:11-14

I. Introduction – 1:1,2

Comfort in true gospel ministry is gained in trusting God while suffering tribulation. II Cor. 1:3-7; Acts 14:22; II Cor. 7:4; I Thess. 3:1-4; Acts 9:15,16

D. We are comforted to comfort. 1:4

E. We are challenged to suffer for His Name's sake. 1:6,7; 11:23

II. Trust in God that raiseth the dead. – 1:8-11; Gen. 22:1-18; Heb. 11:17-19

F. Deliverance is progressive. 1:10

7. "Who delivered us from so great a death"

Justification and Sanctification
(a separation from the world, sin and death)
Justification without sanctification is false doctrine and a false hope.

8. "Doth deliver"

Sanctification-- Sanctification is a work of God's grace that continues to progress unto perfection by obeying the truth. John 17:17
"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" You cannot continue in your sin and still be saved.

Sanctification begins at Salvation not something that starts later.

You don't gradually become saved.

9. "He will yet deliver us"

Glorify Himself in us--II Thess. 1:12—That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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II Cor. 3:18 -But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

John 12:26—If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

G. Prayer is necessary to help. 1:11

10. Prayer is the key that unlocks the door.
11. Prayer is a priceless treasure.
12. Prayer changes things.
13. Prayer has eternal benefits.
14. Consistent prayer is the hardest work you will ever do.

II Cor. 5:20—Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21—For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

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H. A good conscience with no hidden motives is expressed. 1:12-24; 2:1-5

I. The trustworthiness of the messenger affects the trustworthiness of the message. 1:15-20

J. The power to be established even through adversity is of the Holy Ghost. 1:22, 23

15. Established 1:21

16. Anointed 1:21

17. Sealed 1:22

18. Given the earnest 1:22

Paul delayed his visit to Corinth to spare them the embarrassment, not because of lightness. 1:17, 23; 1:12 - 2:5; II Cor. 12:20

III. Obedient in all things. 2:9, 6-11

K. The apostle's motive was correction not vengeance.
2:6

L. The apostle's aim was to judge by Christian love.
2:8

M. The apostle's words. 2:10 "I forgive also"

N. The apostle's knowledge of the enemy's devices
gained-through many hard learning experiences.
2:11; Heb. 5:8—"Learned obedience by the things He
suffered."

O. The apostles concern for Corinth effected his spirit to
preach in Troas even though the Lord opened the door
for him. 2:12, 13

P. The apostle's testimony 2:14-17

II Cor. 2:14—Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us
to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his
knowledge by us in every place.

IV. The apostle's ministry 3:1-7:16

Q. "Epistles of Christ" 3:3

19. Written with the Spirit of the living God. 3:3

20. Not on tables of stone. 3:3

21. But in the fleshly tables of the heart. 3:3

22. All the work was established through Christ. 3:4

23. Our sufficiency is of God. 3:5

R. "Able ministers of the New Testament" 3:6

24. The letter killeth but the Spirit giveth life. 3:6

25. The ministry of the Spirit is far more glorious. 3:7-18

S. "Changed into the same image from glory to glory." 3:18

T. "As we have received mercy we faint not." 4:1-4

U. We preach Christ Jesus the Lord. 4:5,6

V. Triumphant through tribulations. 4:7-18

W. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." 5:11, 1-13

X. "The love of Christ constraineth us." 5:14-16

Y. "Hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." 5:17-21

Z. "We are ambassadors for Christ." 5:20

AA. "Workers together with Him" 6:1 - 7:1

BB. The report of Titus 7:2-16

26. Timothy had been sent. I Cor. 4:17; 16:10

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27. Titus was sent. II Cor. 2:13; 7:6, 13

V. Instructions concerning the collection for the saints in Jerusalem. 8:1 – 9:15

II Cor. 8:7 Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

VI. Paul defending his ministry. 10:1 – 12:21

II Cor. 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

II Cor. 11:5 For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chieftest apostles.

II Cor. 12:12 Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

VII. Paul's last warnings to the Corinthians. 13:1-10 (10:8; 13:10)

CC. "I will not spare"

(In battle) 13:2. Paul declared war on anybody who opposed the authority of God's Word.

DD. "Examine yourselves" 13:5

VIII. Be encouraged and then encourage others. 13:11-14

II Cor. 13:11—Finally, brethren, **farewell**. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

II Cor. 1:4—Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

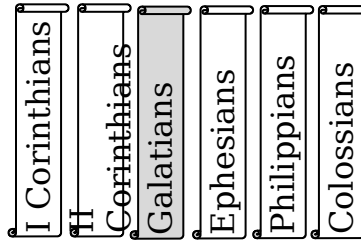
II Corinthians: Study Questions

1. What was the purpose of writing this epistle?
2. Give the theme.
3. Why did Paul delay his visit to Corinth?
4. What was Paul's motive in 2:6?
5. Explain in your own words 2:14-17.
6. Give an example in your own life that compares to 4:8-9.
7. Knowing the terror of the Lord, how would you persuade men to serve God that have no confidence in you? 5:11
8. Count how many times the name Almighty is used in the New Testament. Record the one in II Corinthians.

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9. What place and what person did Paul use as an example who gave an offering?
10. When Paul gave his advice, 8:10,11, what were his exact words?
11. List some of the things Paul mentioned as a thorn in the flesh and what was their purpose?
12. Record signs of an apostle in 12:12.
13. Compare 12:16 with 7:2.
14. What was Paul's farewell message?

Galatians



The Writer

- 1:1—"Paul an apostle (by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead).
- 6:11—"I have written unto you with my own hand"

The Purpose of Writing

- 1:2 "Unto the Churches of Galatia."
- 1:6 "Removed from Him."
- 1:7 "Some that trouble you and would pervert the Gospel of Christ."
- 3:1 "... who hath bewitched you that ye should not obey the truth."
- 4:8-11, 16-17, 20 "They zealously affect you."
- 4:11 (I am afraid for you)
- 4:20 "I am perplexed for you."
- 5:7 "*Ye did run well, who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?*" Paul has received news that the Galatians have taken upon themselves the yoke of the law. The Judaisers are persuading them to come under the bondage of the ceremonial laws again.

The Theme

- Justification and Sanctification are not by the works of the Law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.
- A revelation of Jesus Christ through the Cross

The Outline

Introduction: The Cross in Galatians

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EPISTLES I

- I. Personal Declarations (Ch. 1 & 2)
- II. Doctrinal Declarations (Ch. 3 & 4)
- III. Practical Declarations (Ch. 5 & 6)

I. Introduction: The Cross in Galatians

The Cross	Description	Text
Purpose of the Cross	That He might deliver us	1:1-5
Message of the Cross	The grace & faith of Christ	1:6-2:16
Inclusion of the Cross	I am crucified with Christ	2:17-3:6; 2:20
Redemption of the Cross	From a heathen to a son	3:8 & 4:5-7
Freedom of the Cross	Liberty above sin and bondage	5:1
Offense of the Cross	Humility, meekness, lowliness & faith working by love	5:5-11
Glory of the Cross	Life everlasting	5:12-6:18; 6:8

Summary of first section is Personal, Chapters 1 and 2.

Paul claims he was an apostle before he met the other apostles, they recognized him as an apostle and he even rebuked Peter to the face.

Summary of the second section is Doctrinal, Chapters 3 and 4.

The true children of God are the children of Abraham by faith who was saved by faith and not circumcision.

Summary of the third section is Practical, Chapters 5 and 6.

You are in bondage if you live under the law, but you are free if you live above the law by faith. Obedience to the moral law of God is liberty.

II. Personal Declarations (Ch. 1 & 2)

A. The Call of God (1:1-6)

28. Paul's call came from the Lord

f. Direct 1:1 "By Jesus Christ"

a) Appeared to Him. Acts 9 and called him as He did the other disciples.

g. Divine 1:1 "And God the Father"

b) 1:12 "By the revelation of Jesus Christ"

h. Distinct

c) 1:6 "Into the grace of Christ"

d) 1:15 "Called me by His grace"

29. Galatians' call came from the Lord

1. Direct

1:6 "Him that calleth you"

5:8 "Him that calleth you"

2. Divine 1:4 "According to the will of God and our Father"

3. Distinct 1:4 "Deliver us from this present evil world."

30. The Believer's call comes from the Lord (3:22)

1. Direct 3:22 "Of Jesus Christ"

2. Divine 3:26 "Children of God by faith"

3. Distinct 2:16 "Justified by the faith of Christ Jesus"

3:27 "Baptized into Christ"

3:27 "Put on Christ"

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B. The Grace of Christ 1:3, 6,15; 2:21; 5:4; 6:18

1. A definite calling 1:6
 - a. Called by the gospel in the Bible
1:6 "Called into the grace of Christ."

2. A definite warning 1:8, 9

It is dangerous to project anything into your mind that is not in the Bible.

1:8 "Let him be accused"

1. Man or angel
 - a. The effects of false doctrine

1) Subtle 3:1

2) Soon 1:6

3) Serious 1:9; 2:21; 4:16; 5:4, 9,

15-21

3. A definite revelation

Whatever comes by revelation of the Spirit will agree with the Bible.

"not after man... but after the revelation of Jesus Christ."

1:11, 12

C. A Revelation of Christ in Paul

1:6-17

Text 1:16—"To reveal His son in me"

God's interest in His Son equals the interest He has for every one in the world.

John 3:16—For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

The revelation of Jesus is for us as well as Paul.
Jesus must be revealed in us.

A. The place of the revelation

1. "In Me" 1:16 Not just to me, but "in me."

1:5

2. "To Me" Eph. 3:3,5

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3. "By the Spirit" Eph. 3:5
 4. Taught by revelation Gal. 1:12
 5. In your spirit Gal. 6:18
 - B. The purpose of the revelation
 1. To see Jesus like He is
 2. To understand Jesus like He is
 3. To be made like Jesus - (revealed in me)
 4. "That I might preach Him" 1:16 exalt Him
 5. "Among the heathen" 1:16 obey Him
 6. Communicate the same gospel that they can have the same revelation 2:2, 5; 3:5; 4:19, 30; 5:3
 - C. The power or influence of the revelation
 1. "Immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood" 1:16
 2. The servant of Christ 1:10
 - 1) "Not after man" 1:11, 12
 3. "I went in to Arabia" 1:17
 - (1) Learning experiences
 - (2) Growing process
II Cor. 12:1-4
 4. "I went up by revelation" Gal. 2:2
 5. "And communicated unto them that gospel"
- 2:2

III. Doctrinal Declarations (Ch. 3 & 4)

D. "Be witched" Gal. 3:1

31. The means of bewitching
 1. "Bewitched"
 - a. Cast a spell
 - b. Fascinate
 - c. Mislead
 - d. Charm
 - e. Lies
 - f. Deception
 - g. Evil persuasions

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- allurements
2. h. Zealously affect
"Who hath bewitched you?"
a. Men with their creeds and doctrines
b. The world by attractions and
- contemporary)
3. c. The devil by his evil devices
By what means?
a. Music (Rock and Roll-Rap-Hip Hop-
b. Pornography
c. Drunkardness
d. Evil programs (Virtual Reality-subliminal
tactics)
- e. Ceremonial Laws
Gal. 2:16, 21; 3:1-3, 10-14, 18-19, 21-22

32. The power of this bewitching

Gal. 3:1
"Before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently
set forth."

- from Him" 1:6
1. Before the Truth - "That ye should not obey"
2. Before the experience of Christ - "Removed
3. Running well - hindered 5:7
4. "O foolish Galatians" 3:1
a. Malignant power
b. Strange
c. Inconceivable
d. Foolish to be bewitched to turn from the
truth.

- faith Gal. 3:2
- 1) Paul preached Jesus Christ
2) Christ crucified
3) Christ resurrected
4) Receive Christ by the hearing of

33. The means of escape from this bewitchment.

1. Obey the truth
a. Not the ceremonial law

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They left the truth to turn back to the rituals of the law. 5:4-6

b. Obey the moral law of God through faith.
Gal. 3:11; 5:5, 6; 18-21

c. Walk in the Spirit 5:24-25

E. The Ideal Life Gal. 2:16-21

34. The nature of this life

1. A crucified life
 - 1) Dead to the ceremonial law
 - 2) Dead to sin

2:19

Rom. 6:6

- 3) Dead to the world
Gal. 6:14

2. A resurrected life

- 1) A new life
Gal. 2:20 "The life I now live."
- 2) A supernatural life
Gal. 2:20 "Christ liveth in me"

Rom 6:11 "alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Gal. 2:19 "Live unto God."

I Peter 2:24 "Live unto righteousness"

B. The condition of this life

1. Present
2:20 "The life I now live in the flesh"

2. In the world but not of the world

John 17:15, 16

3. Living soberly, righteously and Godly in this

present world

Titus 2:12 (a new nature)

C. The secret of this life

1. Live by the faith of the Son of God
 - a. Not by something you do, but by what

He gives you.

- 1) A gift of faith from God
- 2) The faith of God

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3) The righteousness of God

2. Christ liveth in me Gal. 2:20
3. Live as a branch from the vine John 15:1-10

XI. The Curse Has Been Lifted
Gal. 3:13 "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the Law."

A. The Cross was a part of the curse
Gal. 3:13 "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree"
1. Man failed the test at the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
a. Christ paid the price of redemption on the tree.
1) Through the cross we are reconciled to God.
2) Through the cross we have peace with God.
3) Through the cross the penalties of the broken law have been removed.
4) Through the cross we have life.
5) Through the cross we are made righteous.

B. The stripes were a part of the curse
1. A common form of punishment
Deut. 25:3 "Forty stripes he may give him and not exceed"

I Peter 2:24 "By whose stripes ye were healed"
C. The thorns were a part of the curse
1. Gen. 3:17,18 "cursed is the ground for thy sake."

Thorns also, ...shall it bring forth to thee.

2. Matt. 27:29 "a crown of thorns"

D. The spear was a part of the curse
1. Gen. 2:21-23
When God formed a bride for Adam, God took from Adam's side.
a. Adam's bride failed and transgressed.
John 19:34

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- a. Blood for atonement
 - b. Water for eternal life
- He took our death that we might have

His life.

c. From out of the riven side of the body of Christ, He will take a rib and form a bride.

E. When the price was paid in full, He got back up again. Rom. 4:25

1. The cross was God's means of salvation. I Cor. 1:18

a. Christ is alive Acts 1:3

(1) His resurrection proves He is the Son of God.

(a) The cross and the empty tomb are proof the curse has been lifted.

F.

G. The Positioning of Sons Gal. 4:1-7

The positioning of sons is known as spiritual adoption. God does not adopt children into the family of God.

A. Birthed in to the family of God.
John 3:3, 5-6

1. The responsibility of the Holy Ghost is to bring to birth every believer. John 3:5; I Peter 1:23

2. The responsibility of the church is to nurture the newborn babes.

Gal 4:2; I Peter 2:2; John 21:15-17; Luke 22:32; I Cor.3:1, 2; Heb 5:12,13; Eph 4:11, 12

3. Newborn babes are dependent. Gal. 4:2;
I Peter 2:2

A new born is dependent on the milk of the Word. Eph. 2:8
"By grace through faith"

B. Growing in Grace II Peter 3:18 Gal. 4:2 *"Until the time appointed"*

Eph. 4:15 "grow up into Him in all things"
"Which is the head"

1. The responsibility of the individual to work out what God has worked in. Phil. 2:12, 13

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a. Receive instructions and discipline Gal.
4:2; II Peter 3:14-17
Heb. 2:1; 5:12; 6:1, 11-12

C. Baptized into the body of Christ I Cor. 12:13
Gal. 3:26-29

1. The baptism into the body of Christ is the operation of the
Holy Ghost. I Cor. 12:13 Eph. 1:13, 14

a. "Be ye filled with the spirit" Eph. 5:18
b. "Filled with the fruits of righteousness"
Phil. 1:11
c. "Filled with the knowledge of His will"
Col. 1:9

2. There are many operations of the Holy Ghost.

a. "*Put on Christ*" Gal. 3:27
b. "An heir of God through Christ" Gal. 4:7

D. Positioned as a son through spiritual adoption Gal.
4:5

1. Adoption into sonship is the operation of the
Holy Ghost.
Gal. 4:6 Rom. 8:15

a. When a child of God reaches maturity he is placed as a
son. Gal. 4:7, 19; Rom. 8:14-30; Eph. 4:13; Heb. 2:10
b. Totally led by the Spirit Rom. 8:14
c. No longer under the Law Gal. 4:3 Gal.
5:18;

4:5 (total release from the curse and bondages of breaking the
law.) We need to stay completely out in front of the laws of God
upholding and fulfilling each one.
Luke 21:28 Eph. 1:14

d. Grace positions the full matured in a higher position like
His son.

Gal. 4:5 "adoption of sons"
Eph. 1:14 "The purchased possession"

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Rom. 8:19 “the manifestation of the sons
of God”

IV. Practical Declarations (Ch. 5 & 6)

Marks of the Spiritual Christian Gal. 6:17

A. The desire to be holy rather than happy

1. Seek His righteousness Matt. 6:33
2. Follow holiness
Heb. 12:14 Rom. 12:2 II Cor. 6:17 I Peter

1:16

Psalms 29:2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

Psalms 90:17 And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon
us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of
our hands establish thou it. 3. Holiness will produce
happiness John 13:17 Psalms 16:11

B. The desire to carry his cross

1. Some interpret adversity as their cross

2. The cross is that which comes to us as a result of obeying
Christ.

It is not forced on us, it is a voluntary act.

Mat. 16:24—“Take up his cross and follow
Me.”

3. To carry the cross means to be attached to the person of
Christ.

- a. Not a piece of wood
- b. Not carrying around problems
- c. Not sickness and disease

B. The desire to see the honor of God advanced

Absolutely nothing brings more honor to the Lord than for His
people to become like Him.

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1. To be like Christ

Gal. 3:27—For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

4:19—My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

5:24—And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

6:18—Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

a. “Not my will, but Thine be done.”

Matt. 26:39 Mark 14:36 Luke 22:42

b. “If we suffer with Him we shall also
reign with Him”

II Tim. 2:9-12

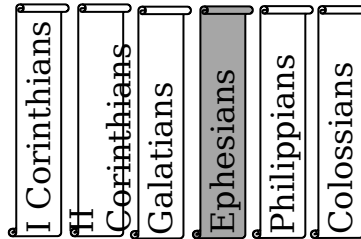
2. A new creature Gal. 6:15; 4:19

3. The Israel of God Gal. 6:16; 3:16

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Galatians: Study Questions

Ephesians



The

- 1:1 "Paul an Apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God."
- 3:1 "I Paul the prisoner of Jesus Christ."

The Purpose of

- To the Saints at Ephesus.
- To the Faithful in Christ Jesus.
- According to the Eternal Purpose.

The

- The unity of the Spirit for faithful Believers in Christ.

The

Introduction: A Close Look at the Purpose and Theme of
Galatians

- I. What God Bestows Upon Us (Ch. 1-3)

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II. What God Expects From Us (Ch. 4-6)

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I. Introduction: A Close Look at the Purpose and Theme of Galatians

H. The Purpose of Writing

- A. 1:1 "To the saints which are at Ephesus"
1. Saints -
- a. Holy - Holiness in character
 - b. A Christian - Follower of Christ
 - c. Set apart for devotion and service of God.
- B. 1:1 "And to the faithful in Christ Jesus"
1. Faithful
- a. Faith maintained - reliable - trusted
 - b. A believer positioned "IN Christ Jesus"
 - c. A special calling to keep the unity of the Spirit."
- 4:3
- C. 1:1 "Paul an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God."
1. Apostle
- a. One sent forth
 - b. Commissioned to carry the gospel
 - c. Paul preached the gospel unto the Gentiles
2. By the will of God
- a. 3:8 "Preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ."
- That which cannot be traced by human effort.

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b. 3:1-21, 2 “The dispensation of the grace of God.”

Stewardship - the responsibility entrusted to Paul to preach the Gospel that was revealed to Him.

c. 3:11 “According to the Eternal Purpose”

1) To see and to know from God’s point of view.

3:9 “To make all men see.”

3:19 “And to know...that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.”

1:3 IN heavenly places IN CHRIST.”

(Seeing from God’s point of view.)

a) We go by time

1:10 “Times” 3:4
“Whereby, when”

(1) God is eternal 33:8

b) We must read and study
3:4

(1) But you will never know God just by reading and studying.

(2) It takes a revelation by the Spirit

3:5 “By the Spirit”

(3) Paul was given the revelation 3:2-4

3:7-12 “We have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him”

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(The Lord hath persuaded us.)

1:6 "He hath made us accepted in the beloved."

2:18 "For through Him we both have access by one spirit unto the Father."

2:22 "In whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit."

(a) God wants entrance into your life
(b) God wants to dwell in you

(c) God wants total control of you

1:11 "worketh all things after the counsel of His own will."

(d) God wants to give you access to Himself.

1:3 "all spiritual blessings"

1:8 "all wisdom and prudence"

1:11-18 "we have obtained an inheritance"

1:19 "the exceeding greatness of His power"

1:23 Christ is our "all in all"

3:12 unlimited faith "by the faith of Him"

3:19 unlimited knowledge and love "all the fullness of God"

D. It takes God to reveal truth

He authored it, He must reveal it.

1. We must share it.

3:1 "For this cause"

3:2 "If ye have heard"

3:4 "Ye may understand"

3:13 "That ye faint not"

2. We pray continually that God reveals it.

3:14 "For this cause I bow my knees"

1:15,16 "Cease not"

6:18 "Praying always"

4. "To make all men see."

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Make—to shine so that all men can see 3:9
5461 photizo “make” to shed
rays, to shine

Eph. 5:8, 14; 6:6; John 9:5; Phil. 2:15; John 1:4-9

Men must see not from the point of limited vision, limited aim
and limited action, but from God’s point of view.

In Christ, In God
II Cor. 4:18 Col. 3:1-3

Eph. 1:10; 2:13, 18; 3:9, 11; 4:13; 6:10, 11, 19

I. The Theme

The unity of the Spirit for faithful believers in Christ.

A. This is shown by key words reoccurring.

1. “In Christ Jesus” 1:1; 2:6, 10, 13
2. “In” is used 102 times 1:23 “All in all”
3. “Together” 1:10; 2:5,6,21,22
4. “One” 1:10; 2:14-16,18; 4:2,4-7,25,32;
5:21,31,33
5. “Unity of the Spirit” 4:3,13
6. “Walk” 2:2,10; 4:1,17; 5:2,8,15
7. “Body” 1:23; 2:16; 3:6; 4:4,12,16; 5:23,30
8. “Therefore” 2:19; 4:1,17; 5:1,7,24
9. “Members” 4:25; 5:30
10. “Church” 1:22; 3:10,21; 5:23-25,27,29,32
11. “Fellowship” 3:9; 5:11

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12. "Fellow citizens" 2:19
13. "Fellow heirs" 3:6
14. "Saints" 1:1,15,18; 2:19; 3:8,18; 4:12; 5:3;
6:18
15. "Children" 1:5; 2:2,3; 4:14; 5:1,6,8; 6:1,4
16. "Family" 3:15
17. "Brethren" 6:23
18. "Obey/obedient" 6:1, 5
19. "Perfect man" 4:12,13
20. The word sin written once 4:26

B. The means of this unity is God's grace 4:7; 2:6-10

1. The book of Ephesians is like the chambers of
God's grace.
His chambers."

Plural - chambers Not chamber

- a. The chamber of salvation and
redemption
1:4-6
12; 2:13
1:13, 14; 4:30
- 1) The father planned it—thought it
 - 2) The son paid for it—bought it 1:7-
 - 3) The Holy Spirit applies it—wrought it

Total redemption is the most glorious work of God. To make the world, He spoke the Word. To redeem the world, He sent His only Son to shed His blood on a cruel cross and arise the third day morning from death, hell, and the grave and ascend forty days later to the throne and sat down at the Father's right hand and sent the Holy Ghost to lead us and guide us into all truth.

From Chamber to Chamber

b. The chamber of power or baptism
Eph. 1:13, 14, 19; 2:18; 3:7, 16, 20; Luke 24:4;
Acts 1:8; I Cor. 12:13

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- c. The chamber of sanctification and
cleansing
Eph. 5:26, 27; 1:4; John 17:17; 3:5; I
Peter 1:2
- d. The chamber of banqueting or revelation
Eph. 1:9, 15-21; 2:7; 3:2;-5, 9, 14-20; 4:7,
17-32
5:3-17, 32; 6:17, 19
- e. The chamber of ministry and calling
1:1,4,5,11; 3:7; 4:1,2,4,7,8,11-13,17,28,29; 5:8-11
- Gifts come and operate by faith – Eph. 4:7; Rom. 12:3,6
Fruits come and grow by character –
Eph. 5:9
- f. The chamber of intercession and prayer
1:16; 3:14; 5:19,20; 6:14,18
- g. The chamber of love and perfection
1:4,6,15; 2:4; 3:16-19; 4:2,13,15,16,24,31,32; 5:1,2, 25,27-29,33;
6:23,24

I. What God Bestows Upon Us (Ch. 1-3)

J. “Spiritual Blessings” 1:3

- a. Birth rights 1:6, 7, 2:1, 5, 10
- 1) “Created in Christ Jesus” 2:10
 - 2) “We have redemption through His
blood.” 1:17
 - 3) “He hath made us accepted in the
beloved.” 1:6
 - 4) birth by the Spirit John 3:5, 6
 - 5) birth by the Word Eph. 5:26; I
Peter 1:23; John 3:5

- b. Throne rights
1:3, 20-22; 2:6

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- 1) The believer can share in the Redeemers throne now in the Spirit.
- a) "Who hath blessed us" 1:3
 - b) "He hath chosen us" 1:4
 - c) "We have redemption" 1:7
 - d) "Ye were sealed" 1:13
 - e) "Hath raised us" 2:6
 - f) Enthroned us -
"Made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" 2:6

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- 2) Throne life requires a revelation
1:15-19 "Revelation in the knowledge of Him"

- a) "The hope of His calling"
1:18
b) "The riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints."
1:18
c) "The exceeding greatness of His power to usward who believe" 1:19

- 3) Throne life requires faith
1:19 "To usward who believe"
According to the working of His
mighty power. 1:19

Unlimited faith - Unlimited power
Limited faith - Limited power

- c. "Sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" 1:13, 14

- 1) Baptism requires salvation through the blood.

1:13, 7

- 2) The baptism of the spirit is the earnest of our inheritance.
1:14

- 3) Two commands
a) Eph. 4:30 "grieve not"
b) Eph. 5:18 "be filled"

- d. Redemption 1:7, 14

- 1) The purpose of redemption
1:6 "adoption"

The placing of sons - Heb. 2:10;

Rom. 8:19-23, 29, 30

- a) This is the work of the Spirit
Rom. 8:14 Eph. 1:13, 14

He draws us to Christ; He seals us as God's possession, shewing divine ownership and leads us on to the purchased possession. (The complete state of release.) Fully matured sons of God.

f) The work of the Church 1:23

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Full of Him - "The fullness of Him that filleth all in all.

1:22 Functioning by Him

- 1:23 1) The church is Christ's body that He works through
- 2:21 2) The church is a Holy temple in the Lord
- 3) The church is part of the mystery of Christ
3:4-10
a) "To the faithful"
- 1:1 b) "A perfect man"
- 4:13 c) "Unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."
- 4:13 d) "The new man"
- 4:24 e) "A glorious
church" 5:27
- f) The great mystery is Christ and His bride 5:32

Rev. 3:20—"If any man hear"

The whole Church will not listen now, but they will be brought to a place to listen.

Rev. 12:14

A Church within a Church, Called out from the called out ones, Individuals that will hear.

Overcome as He overcame - Rev. 3:21

Putting on the whole armor of God and fighting from the victory He gives by faith in the promises not for a victory of our own doing in our strength alone.

Eph. 6:10-18; Rom. 8:37-39; I Cor. 15:57; II Cor. 2:14

2. "Grace"

- a. "Saved by grace through faith" 2:5,8
- 2:1, 5 1) We were dead - He quickened us
- obedient 2:2, 10 2) We were in disobedience - now
- nature and 3) We were the children of wrath - by
choice 2:3
- without God 4) We were stranger, hopeless and
Now as dear children 5:1

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But now in Christ 2:12,13,19-22

- 5) We were far off - made nigh by the blood of Christ 2:13
6) We were without peace - He is our
Peace 2:14-17
7) We were separated from God - but now we have access
2:18; 1:6 (accepted in the Beloved)

b. From children of wrath 2:3 To dear children to be
shown the exceeding riches of His grace
2:7

Some will grow to a full mature state and be placed into
Sonship.

Eph. 1:5 Gal. 4:1-6 Rom. 8:19
1:7,8 "According to the riches of His grace wherein
He hath abounded toward us."

c. "Jesus Christ Himself being the chief
cornerstone"

Eph. 2:20; I Peter 2:6-8; Isa. 28:16; Psalms 118:22; Zechariah 4:7
"crying grace, grace unto it."

3. "Riches" 3:8 "unsearchable" - untraceable
- a. Riches of His heavenly knowledge 3:1-
13
- b. Riches of His unsearchable glory 3:14-
16, 21
- c. Riches of His redeeming love 3:17-19
- d. Riches of His all-sufficient, inexhaustible, almighty power.
3:20
1) "Now unto Him that is able" - all
sufficient
above all" -

inexhaustible
3) "According to the power that worketh in us"

The same power that rose Christ from the dead and set Him at
His own right hand. 1:20

e. Riches of His strength 3:16-18

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1) There is a need for spiritual strength in the inner man
3:16

2) The source of spiritual strength is “by His Spirit” 3:16

3) The purpose for strength is to give Christ permanent residence. 3:17

a) That Christ may dwell in your heart

b) This is secured “by faith”

c) “Rooted” - Like a tree

d) “Grounded” - Like a house on a foundation

e) “In love” permanent relationship

f) “May be able to comprehend”

Apprehend - to lay hold of with the mind—A strong mind

Love passing knowledge 3:19 - a sound mind II Tim. 1:7

II. What God Expects of Us (Ch. 4 – 6)

1. Duties follow doctrine 4:1-32

a. The calling is divine

b. The walk is to be divine

“Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.”

1) Reflecting His character
“With all lowliness and meekness”

4:2

2) Reflecting the mind of God
“With longsuffering”

3) Reflecting the nature of God
“Forbearing one another in love”

c. The call supports the walk 4:3-13

d. The call demands the walk 4:15-32

e. Signs of a healthy walk 4:15, 16

1) Honesty and truth for it's nourishment

2) Love for it's atmosphere

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3) Christ for it's head - rule,
leadership

4) The whole body fitly joined together and compacted by
that which every joint supplieth according to the effectual working in
the measure of every part.

- a) Unity of the Spirit
- b) Submission and fellowship
- c) Growth in the Spirit
- d) Consistency and harmony
- e) Edifying of itself in love
- f) Applying the principles for a healthy church
- g) A perfect measure 4:13

2. The duties of the Church 5:1-33

- a. Follow God as dear children 5:1
- b. Walk in love as Christ also hath loved us
5:2
- c. An accepted sacrifice by His approval
- d. Walk in light 5:3-14
- e. Walk in wisdom 5:15-21

3. The duties of the home 5:22 - 6:9

- 4. The demand for the brethren 6:10-24
 - a. Strength and power 6:10
 - b. Dress for battle, not to gain the victory for ourselves but
to receive the victory already won for us. 6:11
This is a fight of faith not a fight of the flesh.
 - c. Truth prevails with God 6:14
 - d. Righteousness is our covering 6:14
 - e. Knowledge 6:15

The preparation denotes readiness.

Readiness requires prayer and study. Rev. 19:7; Luke 1:17; II
Timothy 2:15, 21

- f. Faith 6:16
- g. Experience 6:17
- h. Revelation 6:17
- i. All prayer 6:18

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Ephesians: Study Questions

1. Have you read the whole book of Ephesians;
Straight through without any disruptions?
2. Write out Paul's introductions in 1:1 and 3:1.
3. What is the theme of the book of Ephesians?
4. Do you think the message of Ephesians was too deep for the
young converts of Ephesus?
5. Who should be reading and studying Ephesians today?
6. Describe Paul's two prayers. --1:15-23
--3:14-21
7. What three words does Paul use to identify the Christians and
himself? Ephesians 1:1
8. What is God's eternal purpose? 3:11
9. Why does God want total control of your life? 1:11
10. What does the word "make" mean here in this verse? 3:9
11. How many times is the word in used in Ephesians?
12. How many times is the word sin used in Ephesians?
13. Show how the triune God prepares for our redemption?
14. What position was Paul in while he was interceding and
praying? 3:14
15. List the three things that God bestowed upon every obedient
believer?

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16. What three things must every believer reflect to walk worthy?

17. Read 4:1-32 (Show as many signs as you can of a healthy walk and a sinful walk.)

18. What does readiness require?

19. Compare these Scriptures

Ephesians

1:1, 2

1:4

1:7

1:10

1:15-17

1:18

1:21-23

2:1, 2, 12

2:15

2:16

3:1-3

3:7-9

4:1

4:2-4

4:16

4:22-24

4:25-26

4:29

4:31

4:32

Colossians

1:1, 2

1:22

1:14

1:20

1:3-4

1:17

1:16, 18-19

1:21

2:14

1:20, 22

1:24-26

1:23, 5, 27, 18

1:10

3:12-15

2:19

3:9-10

3:8-9

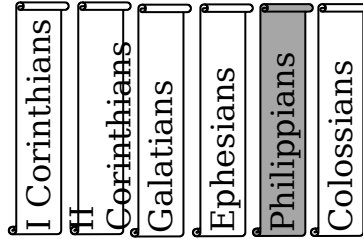
3:8; 4:6

3:8

3:12-13

20. From what you have learned from your study of Ephesians, how can that help fellow Christians right now?

Philippians



The

- Phil. 1:1 – Paul
- “Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ.”

The Purpose of

- To thank, warn, advise and encourage.

The

- The mind of Christ reproduced in the minds of all His people.

The

I. Introduction: Purpose & Theme of Philippians

K.

L. The Purpose of Writing

1. To thank the people for their gifts. 4:10,18

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2. To warn them against false teachers. 3:1-3
 - a. Dogs – false prophets Isa. 56:10-11
 - b. Evil workers – works without faith 3:3
Worship God in the flesh.
 - c. Concision – cutting down instead of
believing God for deliverance.
3. To advise them of the dangers of dissention.
 - a. 1:28 “And in nothing terrified by your
enemies.”
 - b. 2:3 “Let nothing be done through strife.”
 - c. 2:5 “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ
Jesus.”
 - d. 2:14 “Do all things without murmurings and disputings.”
 - e. 3:2 “Beware” “Beware” “Beware”
 - f. 3:3 “Have no confidence in the flesh.”
 - g. 2:2; 3:16; 4:2 “be of the same mind”
 - h. 3:18 “enemies of the cross of Christ”
 - i. 4:4 “rejoice in the Lord”
 - j. 4:5 “let your moderation be known unto
all men”
 - k. 4:6 “be careful for nothing”
 - l. 4:8-9 “think” and “do these things”
4. To encourage them all to go on.
 - a. “All” is mentioned 26 times.
 - b. Sin is not mentioned once.
 - c. Salvation is progressive in that at the
new birth you are free from the penalty of sin but as your faith grows
you can be totally free from the power of sin. 1:6, 9, 11, 27-29; 2:12;
3:8-14, 21; 4:23
 - d. The word joy or rejoice is found in every chapter.
1:4,18,25-26; 2:2,16,18; 3:1,3; 4:1,4,10

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5. To tell them of his intended visit. 1:25, 26; 2:24

M. The Theme

The mind of Christ reproduced in the minds of all His people.

2:2 "Like minded" "one accord" "one mind"
2:5 "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus"
3:16 "Let us walk by the same rule" "Let us mind the same thing"
1:27 "One mind"
1:29 "Believe and suffer for His sake"
1:6 "Being confident"
3:21 "Fashioned like unto His"
4:2 "The same mind in the Lord"
4:7 "Keep your hearts and minds through Christ"
4:13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"

II.

- A. Introduction to all the saints.
1:1-2 "Grace be unto you and peace"
- A. 1:1 "To all the saints" in Christ Jesus"
1. Holiness in character
 - a. Religious
 - b. Sacred
 - c. Consecrated
 2. Morally blameless
 3. Physically and spiritually pure
 4. One set apart for Holy fellowship and service.

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B. “Which are at Philippi”

Acts 16:9-40 A chief city of Macedonia

C. Bishops I Tim. 3:1-7

1. Overseer
2. Pastor
3. Under-Shepherd
4. Elder
5. Christ is the Shepherd and Bishop of our

Souls. I Peter 2:25

D. Deacons I Tim. 3:8-13

1. Attendant
2. To run errands
3. Minister/voluntary servant
4. Church officer

E. The Philippians had heard of Paul’s imprisonment and had sent a love gift by Epaphroditus. 4:10,18

They also heard of Epaphroditus getting deathly sick and Paul wanted them to know that “God had mercy on him” 2:27

B. Always when in prayer requesting fellowship. 1:3-5

C. Confidence in God’s ultimate purpose. 1:6

1. The grounds of his confidence.
“He which hath began”
2. The subject of His confidence.
“A good work in you”
3. The scope of His confidence.
“Will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ”
 - a. Perfection, full stature
 - b. Till Christ is fully formed in you
- c. “Perform” fulfill, terminate, accomplish, finish and perfect

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D. Paul's prayer for the Philippians 1:7-11

1. Perfection of love is produced by the increase of the knowledge of the Son of God, "yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment"

Phil. 3:10 "That I may know Him"

2. Perfection of love produces the ability to discern.

1:10 "Approve things that are excellent"

3. The perfection of love produces purity.
"Sincere" - judged by sunlight
Tested as genuine
Pure
"Without offence"

4. The perfection of love produces a fruitful life.
1:11 "Being filled With the fruits of

righteousness"

The nature of man must be changed by grace before he can bear fruit.

"Which are by Christ Jesus Unto the Glory and Praise of God"

Fruit is the Indication of the general character.

5. Knowledge is increased by fellowship, love and truth.

1:7 "Partakers of my grace" Luke 19:15

"gained by trading"

To partake of this grace is to communicate the same you receive to others.

6. "In all judgment" shows our perception

advancing

7. "Approving things that are excellent"

Knowledge produces love but love produces greater knowledge.

E. The Gospel progressing in spite of persecution and false motives. 1:12-18

F. Christ magnified by life or by death. 1:19-26

G. Unity and humility enforced. 1:27-30

H. Christ's lowliness and humility. 2:1-30

I. Warnings for all. 3:1-21

J. Rejoicing in the Peace of God. 4:1-7

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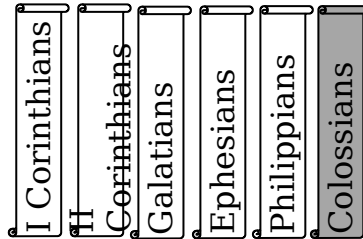
- the God of
- 20
- K. Mediate with a pure mind and do these things “and
Peace shall be with you” 4:8-9
 - L. The peace of contentment in any state. 4:10-12
 - M. Trusting in the strength and riches of Christ. 4:13-
 - N. Greetings from all to all. 4:21-23

A LOT OF WORK FOR PHILIPPIANS NEW OUTLINE NEEDED.

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Philippians: Study Questions

Colossians



The

- “Paul an Apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God.” (1:1)
- Written around the same time as Philemon probably from Rome shortly before Paul’s death while he was a prisoner there (59-62 AD).

The Purpose of

- Show “Christ is all and in all.” (3:11)
- Warn of and correct false teaching that had infiltrated the Church. (1:28)
- Admonish the saints and faithful brethren in Christ. (1:2)

The

- The Lordship of Jesus Christ

1:2,3,10,13,15,18,19; 2:2,3,9,10; 3:1,4,24; 4:3

The

- I. Introduction (1:1,2)
- II. Thanksgiving and prayer for the Lord’s Divine Preeminence (1:3-29)
- III. The Deity and Preeminence of Christ Jesus the Lord.

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- IV. Warnings and Exhortations 2:4 - 4:6
- V. Greetings 4:7-18

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I. Introduction (1:1-2)

Same as in Philippians, Timothy was given honor with Paul

I. Thanksgiving and prayer for the Lord's Divine Preeminence (1:3-29)

The continued prayer for them 1:3,9,13

The apostle's desire 1:9-11

Giving thanks to God 1:3,12-29 For His Word is working in them mightily. First faith is exercised, then hope and love is manifested 1:4,5,8. 1:23 "Continue in the faith, grounded and settled

"The "hope of the Gospel" is the source of his preaching and teaching. 1:23-28 "Made a minister" 1:23,25 Sufferings and joy Secrets and mysteries

The labor of love 1:10,24,29 Building downward 1:23 "Grounded and settled" Deeper life Building upward 2:7 "Built up in Him and established in the faith" Higher life Building inward 3:3 "Hid with Christ in God" Inner life Building outward 4:5 "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without" Outer life 1:7-11 "As ye also learned of Epaphras" 2:6 "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord so walk ye in Him." 3:24 "For ye serve the Lord Christ" 4:12 "Laboring fervently"

II. The Deity and Preeminence of Christ Jesus the Lord.

His preeminence in relation to God. Equal. He is the image of God. He makes God visible

His preeminence in relation to creation "The firstborn of every creature" 1:15 His creative power "For by Him were all things created" 1:16 His sustaining power "And by Him all things consist" 1:17 His consummating glory "He is before all things" 1:17 He is the beginning and the end of all things. He is the cause 1:16 "By Him - For Him" He is the firstborn. He is the goal

The preeminence in relation to the Church "He is the head of the body, the church" 1:18 This implies sovereignty - government This

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implies responsibility - lordship. This implies union - He is the head, we are the body (baptized believers) I Cor. 12:13 He is the only redeemer "We have redemption through His blood" 1:14 "To every creature which is under heaven" 1:23 Reconciled unto perfection 1:19-23,28 He is the fulfillment of the mystery "But now is made manifest to His saints" 1:26 "Among the Gentiles" 1:27 "Which is Christ in you the hope of glory" 1:27 Divinely qualified for inheritance 1:12,13; 2:1-3

The Savior The Head of the Body

The Bridegroom

***The Saved -----The Body of Christ----The
Bride of Christ***

Col 1:9—*For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might **be filled with the knowledge of his will** in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;*

10—*That ye might **walk worthy of the Lord** unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and **increasing in the knowledge of God**;*

11—*Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;*

Col. 1:24—*Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh **for his body's sake**, which is the church:*

Hebrews 6:12—*That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who **through faith and patience inherit the promises**.*

Beginning with the Reformation, God began restoring "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." That is, the Faith that had been lost through tradition, opinions and human ideas.

I Cor. 2:14—The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned

Again, the Bible says, "As it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear hear, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (I Cor. 2:9,10).

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Romans 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.**

The Body of true believers is now one fold.

John 10:16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

There is a body called the General assembly, and not all are of the Lord's planting.

Mat. 15:13 But he answered and said, every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

Mat. 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

There is one Body of true believers in the general assembly born into the family of God.

Not all people in the general assembly are born again and only those who have been born again are a part of the Family of God.

Eph 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom **the whole family** in heaven and earth is named,

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Mat. 13:43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. **Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.**

Mathew 21:43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.

There is one body, that God is building Mathew 16:18 "I will build My Church"

Jesus said, "If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine" (John 7:17).

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- There **has** to be obedience to the truth already revealed to receive more truth.

Proverbs 4:18 says, "The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

The Wisdom of God is what we need to receive; you can't know divine truth unless God reveals it to you.

The Spiritual are given the understanding by the Holy Ghost.

The experience that God has for us is greater than anyone of us can even imagine.

1Cor. 2:10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

Heb 3:7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

Hebrews 3:8-5:14

Heb 4:9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

Mat. 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

rest <anapauo> rest <anapausis> rest <katapausis> rest
<katapauo> rest <sabbatismos>

Rest

Rest

Rest

Rest

Rest

Eph 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Acts 4:25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

It does not matter how hard you try, your imagination will be vain without the Lord helping you.

II Timothy 2:7 Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

Eph 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

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Eph 4:18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

The Lord added the saved to the general assembly

1577. ekklesia ekklesia, ek-klay-see'-ah

A calling out, a popular meeting, especially a religious congregation
Christian community of members, assembly, church, the local church.

Acts 7:38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:

The church in the wilderness is the general assembly of Israel that God brought out of Egypt

Numbers 1:45 So were all those that were numbered of the children of Israel, by the house of their fathers, from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war in Israel;

Numbers 14:29 Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

Numbers 26:64 But among these there was not a man of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest numbered, when they numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

65 For the LORD had said of them, They shall surely die in the wilderness. And there was not left a man of them, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

Joshua 5:4 And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt.

Jude 1:5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

1 Cor. 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

God hath set some in the church (The general assembly-the local church has some men of God)

Not all men in the local church are ordained of God.

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All men in the Body of Christ are ordained of God.

Eph 4:4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

swma soma, so'-mah

The body (as a sound whole), used in a very wide application, literally or figuratively:--bodily, body, slave.

Romans 12:5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

I will build my church

Mathew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock **I will build my church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Mathew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:**

Mark 1:8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Luke 3:16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

John 1:15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

27 He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose.

30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me.

33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 10:44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. Ac 47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

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Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

Acts 15:8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;

John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.³⁸ He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.³⁹ (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and **shall be in you**.

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

1 Cor. 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

13 For by **one Spirit** are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

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1 Cor. 12:27 **Now ye are the body of Christ**, and members in particular.

Eph 1:22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Col. 1:24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

1 Cor. 10:17 For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.

- **"One Bread"** is the whole of the family of God here. (**not** just the church)

One Bread---One Body of Christ /He is the Head---One Wife of whom He is the Bridegroom

The Saved - The Church - The Bride

Mark 4:28 For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

The blade-The ear-The Full corn in the ear

The outer Court-The Holy Place -The Holy of Holies

Body of assembly-(Children of the Kingdom)-{Sons of God}

Body of Believer's-Body of the Church-A Rib (not the whole body) The Bride

All that are in the body of the church are believers but not all believers are in the body of the church, just like all that are chosen by the Lord for His Bride are those out of the church, but not all that are in the church will be chosen.

Mat. 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.
Babes-Children-Sons

Contender-(Conqueror-Over comer) more than a conqueror

30-60-100 Mat.13:23; Mark 4:8

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Servant-Friend -Wife Gal.4:1; John 13:16; 15:14-16; Rev.19:7-8

Believer -Beloved-Bride I Tim. 4:12; Col.3:12; Rev.2:17

Brethren-brother---Disciple-follower---Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist,
(Pastor-Teacher)

Called-Called out-Chosen

Born again---Baptized in the Spirit---Adoption (A Positioning of Son's)

John 21:15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.
Lambs (undeveloped-immature)-Sheep (developing-growing-maturing)-**Sheep** (fully developed-full-grown-Matured)

The Church needs God to build it upon the revelations of the Word, The Revealed Word, the spoken Word, and the Word the Holy Ghost will speak.

A Step of faith to Steps of Faith---Living by faith requires growth and living in the Spirit---Walking in the Spirit (not at all carnal)

Infilling and indwelling - Refilling and growth - Fullness {full stature of Christ}

Ex. 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

Isa 9:8 The Lord sent a word into Jacob, and it hath lighted upon Israel.

Isaiah 41:8 But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

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Micah 7:20 Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham...

John 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. Song of Solomon 2:16; 6:3; 7:10

Familiar terms---Less familiar terms---Unfamiliar terms

II Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as **a chaste virgin** to Christ.

Deliverance

2 Cor. 1:10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;

Salvation

Hebrews 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

Sanctification

1Cor. 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

Jude 1:1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

Romans 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

Justified---Sanctified---Glorified

1 Cor. 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Eph. 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Romans 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

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Ruth 3:2 And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshing floor.

3 **Wash** thyself therefore, and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee, and get thee down to the floor: but make not thyself known unto the man, until he shall have done eating and drinking.

Israel brought out of Egypt, in the wilderness, delivered, (saved)
Israel in the promise land, (A Type of the Church)
Man-child, Over comers, (Bride)

Eternal life-Gift of Salvation
Inheritance-Infilling of the Holy Ghost-earnest-Gift of the Holy Ghost
Full Inheritance-Fullness of the Holy Ghost -Full Rewards-Throne
Rights

Some preach or teach Sermons---Some deliver a Message--- Some
Minister to the People

Lost---Found---Brought into the fold

“in Jesus”--- {“In Christ”- “in the Holy Ghost”}---In Christ in God
Salvation---Earnest of the Spirit---Fullness of the Spirit

The Revelation of Christ---The Rapture of the Church---The Translation
of the Bride

(Spectator Organized Religion - professionally done -man
made-)

[Participator, Ordain the ordinary - for discipleship-God made]

{Listener-Doer Over come even as He over come One with God}

- There must be a progression in faith and experience.
- Where there is a Divine experience of partaking of His Nature there will be a definite change in Character.
- The Saved must be a new Creature. II Cor.5:17
- The Saved must be baptized in the Spirit to receive the **earnest** of his inheritance. Eph1:13-14
- The Church must be Full of the Holy Ghost and Led by the Spirit to appropriate every redemptive right. Romans 8:14; II Cor. 7:1; Luke 21:28,36; Eph. 4:13; Rev. 12:5,11

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- The Lukewarm Church will not attain to all that is given in the Word until it repents and totally surrenders to the Lord.
Rev.3:19; 12:6

III. Warnings and Exhortations 2:4 – 4:6

IV. Greetings 4:7-18

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Colossians: Study Questions

Epistles I Workbook

Pauline Letters to the Church

Syllabus 65

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Quizzes & Final Exam 67

FINAL EXAM **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

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Syllabus

What is the *Class Name*?

- The

What does this course involve?

- You will be

How is this Course Divided?

- This course is divided into
 1. Section 1:
 2. Section 2:

Lesson Plan

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| 1) LESSON 1 | a. Class |
| 2) LESSON 2 | a. Study |
| 3) LESSON 3 | a. Study |
| 4) LESSON 4 | a. Study |
| 5) LESSON 5 | a. Study |
| 6) LESSON 6 | a. Study |
| 7) LESSON 7 | a. Study |
| 8) LESSON 8 | a. Study |
| 9) LESSON 9 | a. Study |
| 10) LESSON 10 | a. Study |
| 11) LESSON 11 | a. Study |
| 12) LESSON 12 | a. Study |

FOLLOW UP

- a. SE

Give introductions to Paul & Epistles I.
Cover pages 1-4 of notes. This is a look at Paul's second missionary journey during which he wrote most of these epistles.

- A. Cover pages 20-21 of notes. (Starting Galatians)
- B. Memorize Galatians 2:18.
- C. Give them the paper on Paul's conversion and call.
- D. Give them "A Rule For Interpretation"

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I Corinthians, II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians
& Colossians

<u>Chapters</u>	16	13	6	6	4	4
<u>Days</u>	8 classes	7 classes	3 classes	3 classes	2	
classes	2 classes					
Notes:	10 pages	5 pages	13 pages	15 pages		
6 pages	5 pages					

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Quizzes

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EPISTLES I

QUIZ

Section 1 - Genesis

1. What does 'Pentateuch' & 'Torah' mean?

Pentateuch means

QUIZ

Section 2 - Exodus

1. What does Exodus mean?

The title of this Book comes from the Septuagint in which it is called "Exodus" which means "

QUIZ

Section 3 - Leviticus

1. Write Leviticus 20:7-8. VERBATIM.

Lev. 20:7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your

Final Exam

1. What is the outstanding and predominant theme of all Scripture?

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Addendum

A Rule for Correct Interpretation of Scripture

There is perfect & unbroken unity from Genesis to Revelation. When interpreting a portion of Scripture, we must study its context. Not only the verses before and after it, but Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. My interpretation of that portion of Scripture must not disturb this perfect unity and harmony of Scripture. Let Scripture be its own interpreter. Remember: We are fully dependant on the Spirit of God to understand His Word (John 16:13 / I Cor. 2:6-14). Ask God to show you His truth (James 1:5).

When establishing one doctrine from a passage, you must never displace any other doctrine of Scripture.

II Peter 1:20 - Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

Private idios, id'-ee-os =

Pertaining to self, i.e. one's own; by implication, private or separate:--apart, aside, his own, their own.

I John 2:27 - But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

American Tract Society Dictionary: PAUL

The distinguished "apostle of the Gentiles;" also called SAUL, a Hebrew name. He is first called Paul in Ac 13:12; and as some think, assumed this Roman name according to a common custom of Jews in foreign lands, or in honor of Sergius Paulus, Ac 13:7, his friend and an early convert. Both names however may have belonged to him in childhood. He was born at Tarsus in Cilicia, and inherited from his father the privileges of a Roman citizen. His parents belonged to the tribe of Benjamin, and brought up their son as "a Hebrew of the Hebrews," Php 3:5. Tarsus was highly distinguished for learning and culture, and the opportunities for improvement it afforded were no doubt diligently improved by Paul. At a suitable age he was sent to Jerusalem to complete his education in the school of Gamaliel, the most distinguished and right-minded of the Rabbis of that age. It does not appear that he was in Jerusalem during the ministry of Christ; and it was perhaps after his return to Tarsus that he learned the art of tent-making, in accordance with a general practice among the Jews, and their maxim, "He that does not teach his son a useful handicraft, teaches him to steal," Ac 18:3; 20:34; 2Th 3:8.

We next find him at Jerusalem, apparently about thirty years of age, high in the confidence of the leading men of the nation. He had profited by the instructions of Gamaliel, and became learned in the law; yielding himself to the strictest discipline of the sect of the Pharisees, he had become a fierce defender of Judaism and a bitter enemy of Christianity, Ac 8:3; 26:9-11. After his miraculous conversion, of which we have three accounts, Acts chapters 9, 22 & 26, Christ was all in all to him. It was Christ who revealed himself to his soul at Damascus, Acts 26:15; I Co 15:8; to Christ he gave his whole heart, and soul, mind, might, and strength; and thenceforth, living or dying, he was "the servant of Jesus Christ." He devoted all the powers of his ardent and energetic mind to the defense and propagation of the gospel of Christ, more particularly among the Gentiles. His views of the pure and lofty spirit of Christianity, in its worship and in its practical influence, appear to have been peculiarly clear and strong; and the opposition which he was thus led to make to the rites and ceremonies of the Jewish worship, exposed him everywhere to the hatred and malice of his countrymen. On their accusation, he was at length put in confinement by the Roman officers and after being detained for two years or more at Caesarea, he was

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sent to Rome for trial, having himself appealed to the emperor. There is less certainty in respect to the accounts, which are given of Paul afterwards by the early ecclesiastical writers. Still it was a very generally received opinion in the earlier centuries, that the apostle was acquitted and discharged from his imprisonment at the end of two years; and that he afterwards returned to Rome, where he was again imprisoned and put to death by Nero.

Paul appears to have possessed all the learning which was then current among the Jews, and also to have been acquainted with Greek literature; as appears from his mastery of the Greek language, his frequent discussions with their philosophers, and his quotations from their poets-Aratus, Acts 17:28; Meander, I Co 15:33; and Epimenides, Titus 1:12. Probably, however a learned Greek education cannot with propriety be ascribed to him. But the most striking trait in his character is his enlarged view of the universal design and the spiritual nature of the religion of Christ, and of its purifying and ennobling influence upon the heart and character of those who sincerely profess it. From the Savior himself he had caught the flame of universal love, and the idea of salvation for all mankind, Gal 1:12. Most of the other apostles and teachers appear to have clung to Judaism, to the rites, ceremonies, and dogmas of the religion in which they had been educated, and to have regarded Christianity as intended to be engrafted upon the ancient stock, which was yet to remain as the trunk to support the new branches. Paul seems to have been among the first to rise above this narrow view, and to regard Christianity in its light, as a universal religion. While others were for Judaizing all those who embraced the new religion by imposing on them the yoke of Mosaic observances, it was Paul's endeavor to break down the middle wall of separation between Jews and Gentiles, and show them that they were all "one in Christ." To this end all his labors tended; and, ardent in the pursuit of this great object, he did not hesitate to censure the time-serving Peter, and to expose his own life in resisting the prejudices of his countrymen. Indeed, his five years' imprisonment at Jerusalem, Caesarea, and Rome arose chiefly from this cause.

These various journeys of St. Paul, many of them made on foot, should be studied through on a map; in connection with the inspired narrative, in Acts, and with his own pathetic description of his labors, II Co 11:23-29, wherein nevertheless the half is not told. When we review the many regions he traversed and evangelized, the converts he gathered, and the churches he founded, the toils, perils, and trials he endured, the miracles he wrought, and the revelations he received,

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the discourses, orations, and letters in which he so ably defends and unfolds Christianity, the immeasurable good which God by him accomplished, his heroic life, and his martyr death, he appears to us the most extraordinary of men.

The character of Paul is most fully portrayed in his epistles, by which, as Chrysostom says he, "still lives in the mouths of men throughout the whole world. By them, not only his own converts, but all the faithful even unto this day, yea, and all the saints who are yet to be born until Christ's coming again, both have been and shall be blessed." In them we observe the transforming and elevating power of grace in one originally turbulent and passionate-making him a model of many and Christian excellence; fearless and firm, yet considerate, courteous, and gentle; magnanimous, patriotic, and self-sacrificing; rich in all noble sentiments and affections.

EPISTLES OF PAUL. -There are fourteen epistles in the New Testament usually ascribed to Paul, beginning with that to the Romans, and ending with that to the Hebrews. Of these the first thirteen have never been contested; as to the latter, many good men have doubted whether Paul was the author, although the current of criticism is in favor of this opinion. These epistles, in which the principles of Christianity are developed for all periods, characters, and circumstances, are among the most important of the primitive documents of the Christian religion, even apart from their inspired character; and although they seem to have been written without special premeditation, and have reference mostly to transient circumstances and temporary relations, yet they everywhere bear the stamp of the great and original mind of the apostle, as purified, elevated, and sustained by the influences of the Holy Spirit.

It is worthy of mention here, that an expression of Peter respecting "our beloved brother Paul" is often a little misunderstood. The words "in which" in II Peter 3:16, are erroneously applied to the "epistles" of Paul; and not to "these things" immediately preceding, that is, the subjects of which Peter was writing, as the Greek shows they should be. Peter finds no fault, either with Paul, or with the doctrines of revelation.

The arrangement of Hug is somewhat different; and some critics who find evidence that Paul was released from his first imprisonment and lived until the spring of A. D. 68, assign the epistles Hebrews, 1Timothy, Titus, and 2Timothy to the last year of his life. See TIMOTHY.

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---American Tract Society Dictionary

Paul's Conversion and Call

Paul's Conversion Acts 9:1-6 / 26:9-18

Paul encountered the Lord on his way to Damascus. In this encounter, the Lord identified Himself to Paul, placed His call on his life, (Acts 26:16-18) and instructed him to go into the city where he would be told what to do (Acts 9:6). Having been blinded in his encounter with the Lord, he was led by the hand into the city of Damascus (v.8) and stayed at the house of a man named Judas (v.11). He was blind for three days during which time he fasted (v.9) and prayed (v.11). During this time, the Lord showed him a vision of a man named Ananias coming and praying for him that his sight might be restored (v.12). The Lord sent Ananias, one of the disciples of Damascus, to Paul having instructed him to pray for him that he might receive his sight and be filled with the Holy Ghost (v.17). Paul's sight was restored, he was baptized in the Holy Ghost (v.18) and broke his fast (v.19).

Paul's time of learning the doctrine of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

In the middle of verse 19, there appears to be space of time not mentioned in Acts. The latter half of Galatians 1:16 seems to pick up where the first half of Acts 9:19 left off. Paul says in Gal. 1:16b,17; "immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood: Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus." After his conversion, he did not consult with the disciples at Damascus or the Apostles that were at Jerusalem, but "immediately" went into Arabia. It is believed that he dwelt in the northern part of the Arabian Desert, the el-Badieh or "Great Wilderness" of the Arabs, which lays adjacent to the territories of Damascus. (American Tract Society Dictionary under "Arabia Deserta" & Easton's Bible Dictionary under "Arabia".) While there, he received the doctrine of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by revelation from the Lord (Gal. 1:11-12 / Acts 26:16b / II Co 12:2-4). After his stay in Arabia, he "returned again unto Damascus" (v.17b) where he spent "certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus" (Acts 9:19b). This was his first meeting with the disciples since his conversion and it was here that he began his public ministry preaching in the synagogues of that city (Acts 9:20,22/ 26:20). He preached in Damascus for "many days" (Acts 9:23), "three years" (Gal. 1:18), but when the Jews determined to kill him and laid in wait for him at the city gates, the disciples let him down from the wall in a

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basket by night and he went on to Jerusalem (Acts 9:23-27 / 26:20 / Gal. 1:18).

Galatians 1:11-17

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,

16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

→

II Corinthians 12

2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

3 And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)

4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

5 Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities.

6 For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.

7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

Paul received further understanding and knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ by revelation from God in the wilderness of Arabia before beginning his public ministry.

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When the Lord first appeared to Paul at the time of his conversion, the Lord said to him:

Acts 26:16 - I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee.

Here, at the time Paul was converted, the Lord said that he was to be a witness of the things He had just revealed to him, but He also speaks of appearing to him in the future and that he is to be a witness of the things He would reveal to him then as well.

Paul said that (Acts 9:1-6 / 26:9-18) after he was converted, healed and filled with the Holy Ghost; (Gal. 1:16b, 17) “immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood: Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.” It is evident that following his conversion, healing and baptism in the Holy Ghost; Paul, I believe by God’s direction and leading, avoided meeting with any of the believers around him, but immediately left Damascus and headed into the wilderness of Arabia where God revealed to him more fully the doctrines concerning the gospel of Jesus Christ before he “returned again unto Damascus,” met with the disciples there and began his ministry (Acts 9:19-20).

Digging Deep

Luke 6:48—He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep...

- ❖ This wise builder struck the rock before he laid the foundation.
God is not to be found on the surface. [Shifting Standards -
Shifting sand]
 1. Diligently digging (search) to know Him.

*1Cor. 11:3 **But I would have you know**, that the **head of every man is Christ**; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.*

- a. That we might have more Light.
Prov.4:18
- b. That we might have more Truth. John.
8:31-32; 17:17
- c. That we might have more Life Rom. 5:1-5;
Titus 3:4-8, 14

Php 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

All Fleshly desires being put to death!

*Luke 16:3 Then the steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: **I cannot dig**; to beg I am ashamed. I am resolved... (DIG, DIG, DIG)*

While the foolish build on thoughts that are deviating from the Truth,

The wise seek only the truth.

- There must not be any change from the foundation.
- There must not be any variation from the foundation or the blueprint.
- Every change and variation is a violation of God's Word.
- Every violation of God's Word is a sin.
- The Word of God is Truth. John 17:17

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2. Digging Deeper to grow more like Him.

- A person must be saved I Cor. 1:6,9,18,30; 2:12; II Cor. 5:17
- A person must be full of the Holy Ghost I Cor. 6:19; 12:3
- A person must be a faithful witness I Cor. 4:2,17; 7:25
- A person must grow to be more like Him I Cor. 1:5,7,9,30
- A person must study more of His Word I Cor. 2:7,13
- A person must fully obey His Word I Cor. 1:8
II Tim. 2:15; Hebrews 4:11; II Peter 1:5, 6, 7
- ◆ A man's words expose his true nature: what he is really like beneath the surface.

Don't just dig it up, **but dig it out**

⇒ A man's words expose what he is down deep within his heart: his motives, desires, ambitions, or the lack of initiative.

⇒ A man's words expose his true character: good or bad, kind or cruel.

⇒ A man's words expose his mind, what he thinks: pure or impure thoughts, dirty or clean thoughts, negative or positive.

⇒ A man's words expose his spirit, what he believes and pursues: the legitimate or illegitimate, the intelligent or ignorant, the true or false, the good or evil, beneficial or wasteful, Spiritual or carnal.

3. **Dig Deep in prayer** that others will know Him

I Cor. 11:4,13; **14:15**

John 8:43; Jer. 7:28; Mt 13:15; Mat. 12:34; Luke 6:45

Faith sees the invisible, Believes - the incredible, Receives - the impossible.
and meditate

Read and meditate - hear

Read and believe - hear and believe

Read and ponder - hear and ponder

Read and obey - hear and obey

KEY VERSES:

3:6 "God giveth the increase"

3:9 "For we are laborers together with God"

3:10 "A wise master builder"

3:11 Jesus Christ is the foundation

3:16 "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God" (6:15, 19,

20)